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*Carol Riedinger 11/22/05*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit 1763

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In re application of : November 22, 2005  
Hendrik F. Hamann et al. : Examiner: Maureen G. Arancibia  
Serial No. : 10/604,487 :  
Filed: July 25, 2003 : IBM Corporation  
Dept. 18G/Bldg, 300-482  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHODS OF : 2070 Route 52  
ALTERING A VERY SMALL SURFACE : Hopewell Junction, NY  
AREA : 12533-6531

Amendment after Final Rejection

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following amendment is submitted in response to the final office action dated September 22, 2005.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

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12/6/05